

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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P 142200Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL QUEBEC
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1304
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MONTREAL PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, CA, US
SUBJECT: QUEBECOIS OFFICIAL PUBLICLY EXPOSED IN FRONT OF
STATE DEPARTMENT

1. FRENCH LANGUAGE CBC NATIONAL NEWS LAST NIGHT CARRIED REPORT
ON QUEBEC MINISTER OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS CLAUDE MORIN'S
VISIT TO WASHINGTON. INCLUDED IN COVERAGE WAS SHORT INTERVIEW
AT STATE DEPARTMENT ENTRANCE WITH MORIN'S DEPUTY,
RICHARD POULIOT, WHO LOOKED LIKE SMALL BOY CAUGHT WITH HIS
HAND IN COOKIE JAR.

2. CBC PLAYED UP FACT THAT THIS WAS A "FIRST FOR THE MINISTER
OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND FOR QUEBEC DIPLOMACY."
EMPHASIZING THAT THIS IS FIRST TIME A SENIOR QUEBEC OFFICIAL
HAS BEEN RECEIVED AT STATE DEPARTMENT. IN BRIEF INTERVIEW
HELD ON THE RUN AS POULIOT WAS ATTEMPTING FLEE FROM UNWANTED
TV CAMERA, THE DISCONCERTED DEPUTY ASSISTANT MINISTER DENIED
BEING IN DEPARTMENT AT REQUEST OF USG, REFUSED COMMENT ON
WHETHER HIS MEETING WAS AT REQUEST OF GOQ OR HAD BEEN ORGANIZED
WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE CANADIAN EMBASSY. WHEN ASKED WHOM
HE HAD BEEN AT DEPARTMENT HE REPLIED, "JOHN ROUSE, CHIEF
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OF THE CANADIAN SECTION."

3. LATER IN DAY CLAUDE MORIN WAS INTERVIEWED IN FRONT OF
JOHNS HOPKINS SCHOOL OF ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL STUDIES,
WITH MORE COMPOSURE THAN HIS AIDE MORIN SAID HIS CONTACT
WITH US OFFICIALS HAD BEEN LIMITED TO A LUNCH TO WHICH THEY HAD BEEN
INVITED. THERE HAD BEEN NO PERSONAL MEETING, NOTHING OFFICIAL,

HE SAID. MORIN ACKNOWLEDGED THAT POULIOT HAD DISCUSSED
"QUESTIONS OF COMMON INTEREST" AT DEPARTMENT AND DENIED THERE WAS
ANY "SHADY PLOT" INVOLVED. MCNAMARA

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Message Attributes

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